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United States Government Signs Agreement with Ministries of International Cooperation and Agriculture to Support Food Security Early Warning System in Northern Sudan

NORTHERN, SUDAN – The Ministries of International Cooperation (MIC) and Agriculture and Forestry (MoAF) and the United States Government today signed an Implementation Protocol for \$950,000 USD that re-establishes the Famine Early Warning System Network (FEWS NET) project in the fifteen states of northern Sudan. This event marks an important partnership between the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) and the Government of National Unity (GNU), as well as the resumption of a program that had been closed since 1992. The U.S. Government, acting through USAID, is providing a valuable resource to assist the GNU and international community with the collection and analysis of food security data. The provision of timely and analytical food security information will help to predict and manage the threats of food insecurity. FEWS NET will provide regular reporting to include the monitoring and assessment of hazards, food security conditions, root causes of food insecurity, and changes in people's vulnerability in each of the fifteen northern states as well as at the national level.

The MoAF will be the primary focal ministry to work with FEWS NET, with particularly close collaboration envisioned with the newly formed inter-ministerial food security coordinating body, the Food Security Technical Secretariat (FSTS), chaired by the MoAF. FEWS NET will work hand-and-hand with state-level counterparts, notably the State Ministries of Agriculture and Animal Wealth, as well as with other ministries and commissions, and will look for opportunities to help build their capacity for monitoring and analyzing natural and manmade impact on food security.

The U.S. Government looks forward to a long and productive relationship with the Government of National Unity in support of the FEWS NET project, which aims to improve information sharing and analysis on critical issues related to food security.

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